

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:

BOX PCT

Sascha Doekel et al.

Group Art Unit: unknown

Application No. (unknown)

Examiner: unknown

Filed: October 1, 2001

FOR: MICROBIOLOGICAL PRODUCTION METHOD FOR α -L-ASPARTYL-L-PHENYLALANINE

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October 1, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please enter the following amendment in the application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At the top of the first page, just under the title, please insert the following new heading and paragraph:

--Cross-Reference to Related Applications

This Application is a continuation of International Application PCT/NL00/00206, filed March 28, 2000, which designated the U.S. and was published in the English language, and which further claims priority from European Application No. 99203518, filed March 29, 1999, European Application No. 99200954, filed October 26, 1999, and U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/133,402, filed May 10, 1999, the entirety of each incorporated herein by reference.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

#6/a
JEP
1-29-02

TOP SECRET - ATTACHED